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*of the*  
SCHOOL  
LIBRARY  
ASSOCIATION  
*of*  
CALIFORNIA

VOLUME TWELVE  
JANUARY, 1941  
NUMBER TWO

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# THE BULLETIN

## *School Library Association of California*

Volume XII

January, 1941

Number 2

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The Bulletin of the School Library Association of California is published in four issues during the school year by the Association, under the direction of the editor.

Articles and news for publication may be sent to the editor, Katharine Leithold, librarian, C. K. McClatchy Senior High School, 3066 Freeport Boulevard, Sacramento, California; or to the associate editor, Reba M. Bartlett, librarian, Frank Wiggins Trade School, 1646 South Olive Street, Los Angeles, California.

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Send dues to Section Treasurer.

Send subscriptions to the Editor.

# **School Library Association of California**

## **CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS FOR 1940-1941**

### **Southern Section**

- October 5—Book breakfast. Subject: Latin America.
- October 26-27—Annual state meeting held at Visalia.
- November 2—Institute meeting held at Scripps College Art Building, Claremont.
- December 7—Book breakfast. Subject: New books for children and books for Christmas buying.
- December 14—Christmas dinner meeting held at Chapman Park Hotel, Los Angeles.
- January 4—Book breakfast. Subject: Current books—Books for Junior college.
- February 8—Book breakfast to be held at Pig'n Whistle, Los Angeles.
- March 1—Book luncheon to be held at Rancho Santa Fe, San Diego.
- April 5—Book breakfast to be held at Pig'n Whistle, Los Angeles.
- Annual spring meeting. (Date and place to be announced.)

### **Northern Section**

- June 8—Council meeting held at San Jose.
- September 21—Council meeting held at Sir Francis Drake Hotel, San Francisco.
- October 26-27—Annual state meeting held at Visalia.
- December 1—Book brunch and council meeting held at Women's City Club, San Francisco. Subject: The Americas.
- January 11—Council meeting to be held at Sir Francis Drake Hotel, San Francisco.
- March 1—Open council meeting. To be held at David Starr Jordan Jr. High School, Palo Alto.
- March 30—Book brunch and council meeting to be held at Women's City Club, San Francisco.
- May 3—Annual spring meeting to be held at Marin Jr. College.

## School Library Services of the United States Office of Education

By EDITH A. LATHROP, *Associate Specialist in School Libraries*  
Federal Security Agency, United States Office of Education

School library services of the United States Office of Education, like all other services that it renders, must be in conformity with the general purposes of the basic law by which the Congress created the Office in 1867.

These purposes are the collection of statistics and facts showing the condition and progress of education in the various States and territories, the diffusion of such information relating to education as shall aid the people of the United States in establishing efficient school systems, and "otherwise promote the cause of education."<sup>\*</sup>

### LIBRARY SERVICE ESSENTIAL

During the seventy-odd years of the existence of the Office, the library has been recognized as essential to the development of the educational program. Naturally, opinions as to what have constituted adequate services have been modified from time to time in conformity with changes in the administrative and instructional practices of the schools served. These opinions have run the gamut from a few books used to supplement the textbooks in certain high school subjects, particularly English and history, to a service that is a reading and cultural center for the entire school. The latter includes both elementary and high school grades, a variety of books and other printed

materials covering many subjects (and sometimes visual and audio aids), adequate library space and professionally trained librarians.

The growing importance of library service for schools finally resulted in a demand for an enlargement of the facilities of the Office for the collection and diffusion of information on the subject. Prior to 1930 such information was collected and reported largely by various administrative units of the Office, particularly the Statistical Division and the Library. In 1930 the writer was appointed associate specialist in school libraries and assigned to the latter unit; the preparation of studies and investigations in the field of library service for rural schools was emphasized in the assignment of duties.

### LIBRARY SERVICE DIVISION CREATED

In 1936 the Congress made an appropriation for the establishment of a Library Service Division which was formally set up January 1, 1938. In so doing a step was taken for the development of a program bringing about greater coordination and extension of facilities for all types of libraries. In making the appropriation, Congress said that it should be used for the purpose of:

"Making surveys, studies, investigations, and reports regarding public, school, college, university and other libraries; fos-

<sup>\*</sup> 39th Congress, 2nd Session, 1865-1867. 14. Stat. L., p. 434.

(Continued on Page 20)



## Fifth Annual Convention

The Fifth Annual Convention of the School Library Association of California was held in Visalia on Saturday and Sunday, October 26 and 27, with headquarters at the Hotel Johnson.

An executive board meeting took place on Saturday morning, Myrtle Barrier, State President, presiding. Conferences with consultants were held during the convention with Clara Josselyn of the Roosevelt Elementary School Library in Long Beach, and Jeanetta Gatch, Director of School Libraries in Palo Alto, in charge of the elementary school groups. Margaret Glassey, librarian of the Emerson Junior High School in Los Angeles, and Elsa Neuman, librarian of Everett Junior High School in San Francisco, were consultants for those interested in junior high schools. Senior high school groups were conducted by Mildred Bandy, Bonita High School librarian, and Kara S. Whiteher, librarian at Mission High School in San Francisco. Acting as consultants for junior college librarians were Janice Pidduck, of the Los Angeles City College Library, and Hollis V. Erickson of the Marin Junior College Library. Allie S. Moore, who is in charge of state-wide W. P. A. library projects, met with those interested in W. P. A. cooperation.

At luncheon on Saturday, greetings were extended from state and section officers and other honored guests, including Mr. Maddox, President of the Visalia Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. DeWitt Montgomery, Superintendent of Schools in Visalia.

The dinner on Saturday evening, presided over by Katherine Gibson, librarian of the Metropolitan Continuation High School of Los Angeles, was in honor of retired school librarians throughout the state. Dramatic readings were presented by Martha Farrar and Ruth Netherecott of the Compton Junior College faculty.

Music for the convention consisted of vocal solos by Mr. Elvin F. Ebersole accompanied by Miss Marian Sill, and Miss Grace Mahin accompanied by Miss Ruby Charlton. Miss Sill entertained also with piano solos.

A social hour was enjoyed in the lounge of the Junior College on Saturday afternoon with Miss Anasue Hughes, librarian of the Visalia Public Library, and Miss Eleanor Wilson, librarian of Tulare County Free Library, hostesses.

Throughout the meeting much interest was shown in the exhibit table arranged by Dorothy Smith of the Long Beach Junior College library. This is described elsewhere in this issue.

Highlights of the convention were the talks by Marjorie Van Deusen, librarian of the Belmont High School in Los Angeles, and by Dr. Eleanor Rowland Wembridge, psychologist and author living in Los Angeles.

Miss Van Duesen's talk was given in the new Visalia Junior College library Saturday afternoon. It dealt with her trip East this summer to



the New England States, and north to the Gaspe' Peninsula in New Brunswick, with remarks about books that the journey inspired her to read or to re-read. Some of these were "Adventures in Good Eating" and "A Lodging for the Night," by Duncan Hines; "Quietly My Captain Waits," by Evelyn Eaton; "Pilgrim's Way," by John Buchan; "Salt of Vermont," by Walter Hard, druggist and poet whose poems are anecdotes of New England. The last book she mentioned was "Fear No More," a small volume of poems by living English poets. No editor nor author is given and all the poems have been written in the past five years.

Dr. Wembridge, introduced by Jessie Boyd, librarian of the University High School in Oakland, addressed the group at the breakfast

meeting on Sunday morning.

Thoughts emphasized by her were that in a democracy it is imperative that people think. That they do not think without books; they must read. The great talent or genius of twenty years from now is at present spending time in some school library. She stated that they were shy people not telling what they know. By the very fact that they are talented they are timid and different from the rest. Dr. Wembridge believes school librarians must have an "eye open" for them, for talent of a high order is very precious and must be helped and encouraged. Librarians are peculiarly at the crossroads to see them if anyone can, for often their only contact is through the medium of books.

## Idea Exchange At Visalia

DOROTHY B. SMITH, *Assistant Librarian*  
Long Beach Junior College

A new feature of the convention of school librarians this year was the exhibit of *materia bibliothecaria* supplied by librarians in and out of the state and by library schools across the country. Its purpose as an idea exchange seemed to be fulfilled, for between meetings groups were constantly lingering around the exhibit tables taking notes, wanting to buy this, asking to borrow that, until at the end of the convention only the signs remained to take home.

One of the most popular sections of the exhibit displayed book lists for elementary school through the college. The brightly colored block-printed scenes, each of a different country, supplied by Mrs. Louise

Butler of Hamilton Junior High School in Long Beach, attracted much attention. Lists from Los Angeles City Schools were given away to all comers arriving early enough. Vocational lists were supplied by Elizabeth Neal of Compton Junior College, Katharine Leithold and Jeanette Craig of the C. K. McClatchy Senior High School in Sacramento.

Copies of the list of books for high school libraries, prepared by the professional committee of the southern section last spring, were sold at the exhibit tables. Attractive colored folders with subject lists came from a Milwaukee high school.

(Continued on Page 22)

## Guatemala Journey

By HAZEL ZIMMERMAN, *Librarian*

David Starr Jordan Junior High School, Long Beach

Driving across the desert did seem a strange way to celebrate the Fourth of July, but if we were to reach New Orleans in time to get our boat for Guatemala we had no choice. There were four in the party. Katherine Holzapple, a Los Angeles teacher, was driving; the other three were Southern Section librarians—Helen Herney of Los Angeles City College library, Louise Butler and I of the Long Beach schools.

We arrived in New Orleans in a rain storm, had one very warm day there, and left on the eleventh to cross the gulf of Mexico. Arriving at Puerto Barrios, Guatemala's principal port, we found a special train to take us on the last lap of our journey to Guatemala City.

While we found Guatemala City interesting and very friendly, we had really come to see the Mayan Highlands and the colorful life of the Indians there. On the third day after our arrival we went out after breakfast to find our luggage being stowed in a beautiful new Chrysler and to meet our driver-guide. On our way to New Orleans we had expressed the wish that we could find the driver who was praised so highly in Joseph Henry Jackson's "Notes on a Drum." Talking among ourselves as we left the city, we mentioned this book. Roderigo immediately offered the information that he had driven Mr. Jackson all over Guatemala! That made things perfect.

Leaving Guatemala City the road begins its climbing and dipping, up one mountain, usually a volcano, down a steep sharply curving road into a beautiful valley. That first day we saw Lake Amatitlan from a high ledge overlooking the summer home of President Ubico. Frankly we felt it rivalled Tahoe. Over the pass we stopped at the entrance to a coffee finca to get one of the few clear-to-the-top views of Agua's perfect cone. Its symmetry reminds one of scenes of Japan's Fuji. Down at last through other coffee plantations to Antigua, ancient capital of Guatemala, a city of beautiful ruins and colorful Indian life. Deserted after the great earthquake of 1773, the city was taken over by Indians who moved into the ruined churches and palaces, washing their clothes in fountains and setting up their looms in cloisters. Perhaps encouraged by the success of the Popenoes' reconstruction of an ancient palace described in Adamic's "House of Antigua," others have taken over the beautiful colonial ruins and are bringing the city to life and to a new beauty. There were two moving picture cameras in our party and it is surprising how beautiful the unrestored ruins look in the finished films.

Leaving Antigua with our same careful driver, we took the high and winding roads again through Chimaltenango, past the fountain whose waters flow to both the Atlantic and the Pacific ocean, past Patzicia where on a high hill the Indian women in their colorful red and blue

costumes were washing and gossiping. After about four hours the car turned off the road to roll a few feet down a woodsy path from where we marvelled at the wonderful deep blue of the lake far below us. If Amatitlan was beautiful there were no words to describe Atitlan. It is over seventeen miles long and varies in width from nine to eleven miles. Volcanoes rise around its shores in almost unbroken line. It is said there is one for each of the Apostles. Clouds shifted back and forth, now covering one peak and then another. Although it was mealtime, we stayed there an hour and left only because Roderigo thought it might rain, which would cause the streams we must ford to rise. A half hour later we came out to the edge of the lake in front of our Hotel Tzanjuhu.

We crossed the lake twice. Our second trip across took us to Santiago which was in the midst of a three day fiesta. Dressed for the dance of the Conquistadores, the dancers had pink masks with long silken golden curls to hide black hair and brown faces. Vari-colored stockings covered brown legs. The costumes were of velvets, silks and laces that could easily have appeared at Isabella's court. A Marimba in the shadow of the ancient church furnished the music for dancing.

After four days at Atitlan, we were on our way again, up and up over the pass through several interesting villages until we came to Quetzaltenango, the second largest city in Guatemala, at an elevation of around 8,000 feet.

Our three days at Quetzaltenango are memorable for various reasons. It was here that we luxuri-

ated in the beautifully tiled Cecil B. DeMille bath at the nearby hot sulphur springs. Here we had our first delicious bowl of the famous black bean soup. Finally, our last morning was touched off with a hearty earthquake at 7:30. Following the California custom, we stood in the doorway only to find when the building stopped rocking that the blocks of stone over our heads had dropped an inch or two in our direction.

We didn't have much time to worry about possible damage as we were leaving for Chichicastenango by the long way. This took us over the highest pass of all, appropriately called Peak of the Winds—or Cumbre del Aire. From here we had a magnificent view of the highest range in Central America. Having started with an earthquake, the day ended with a landslide a half hour out from Chichi. Assured that the only other road would take us all the way back over the whole day's journey, we had deepened respect and appreciation for our driver when he arranged to have us shuttled over the great hill of debris and made it possible for us to reach the Mayan Hotel by seven o'clock. Here the town of Chichicastenango, the countryside about, and the Indians themselves deserve an entire book. The scenes in our films of this region are bright with the red head-dress of the men and the red and purple blouses of the women, showing in bright contrast to the rich black wool costumes. They are filled with the mystic beauty of the two glistening white churches that face each other across the great square. Life flows about and into these churches. From early morning to late at night we

saw the Indians swinging their individual censors on church steps, we saw them entering with their white bags over their shoulders, saw them kneel in the aisles, take candles from the bags, light them, place them on the floor and again from the bag take rose petals to scatter among the flames in sacrificial offering. We climbed the hill of the shrine, back of the town and were fortunate to see a witch doctor perform an incantation on behalf of a man and woman who knelt patiently nearby. The stone altar was dominated by a great stone idol, but in back we saw Christian crosses which had been left by other worshippers.

Chichicasteñango is a place that must be revisited. But then that applies to all of Guatemala. It is a country of beauty, of friendliness and charm, where, for a few years yet, one may see much of the color and fascinating tribal life of the Indians.

We hear a rumor that librarians of the Los Angeles district will have an opportunity to see some of the sights described here through one of the films taken on this trip. Like the old witch doctor on the hill of the shrine, it will cast its spell and all who see will want to go up over the high winding roads that lead to the land of the Mayas.

## Book Week Broadcast

By HENRIETTA M. WILLIAMS, *Librarian*  
Burbank Junior High School, Berkeley

Margaret Girdner, Supervisor of Textbooks and Libraries of San Francisco Schools, opened Book Week with a program on the Joseph Henry Jackson hour over KGO, Sunday, November 10. For several years Miss Girdner has made a check-list of the outstanding children's books of the year for the San Francisco Chronicle. This year she explained that it was difficult to limit the list to the one hundred best new books as there is such a wealth of fine new material especially for boys and girls of the middle years, eight to twelve.

On behalf of children's librarians, Miss Girdner paid a gracious acknowledgment to Mr. Jackson for his annual participation in Book Week both in this radio program and in the book review section of the Chronicle. She pointed out that the Book Week edition of the

Chronicle's literary section is the most extensive and important recognition of the Week in the West, and that the librarians of northern California who are asked to contribute reviews are the envy of those in other sections of the country who have no such avenue of expression. Miss Girdner continued by saying that it was this emphasis on the importance of children's books which had grown, and as more good books have been published each year, the space given in the paper to the children's librarians has grown proportionately. So that now they look forward to the opportunity to celebrate the annual Book Week theme through Mr. Jackson's generosity.

Two children's authors, Miss Doris Gates and Mr. Felix R. Riesenbergh, Jr., who have outstanding new books, were then inter-

viewed. Miss Gates spoke about her last book, "Blue Willow." She explained the significance of the title by saying that Janey, the little migrant girl in the story, owned a blue willow plate, the only remaining possession of her remembered home. This plate was the most important thing in her life because it symbolized for her all those things she wanted badly and didn't have—a home, security, and a sense of belonging. The locale of the story is a particular spot on the banks of the San Joaquin River which is lined with willows. The child associated the distant blue of the willows with her blue willow plate. Here was the place she wished to stay.

Mr. Felix Riesenber, Jr., was asked about his recent book for older boys and men, "Yankee Skippers to the Rescue." This recounts the daring and courage of about

twenty rescues at sea since the World War. Mr. Riesenber gave a detailed account of the technique of rescue in general, but he stated that each ship in trouble presents a particular set of problems. He emphasized that "Yankee Skippers to the Rescue" is more than a biography of captains and their heroic rescues, for each chapter sees a development in the technique of saving life from the sea and each rescue is affected by the one preceding it.

These two books, "Blue Willow" by Doris Gates, and "Yankee Skippers to the Rescue" by Felix Riesenber, Jr., are on the Chronicle check-list compiled by Miss Gridner. This list is free. Send to Mr. Joseph Henry Jackson, National Broadcasting Company, San Francisco, for copies of it.

## Faculty Book Clubs

FACULTY BOOK CLUB COMMITTEE\*  
George Washington High School, Los Angeles

"Wednesday is moving day" is the theme of the faculty book clubs of Washington High School. So popular have the book clubs become that one was not sufficient to satisfy the demands of the faculty and so they became plural. Beginning last year, there emerged three.

The faculty book club committee consisting of three is elected in the spring by the members of the clubs. By having the summer in which to keep an "ear to the ground," it is better versed in the book situation when school begins in September.

Early in the Fall semester mem-

bers are rounded up, suggestions made both for books and procedure and an annotated list is prepared from the suggestions of the members and from the findings of the committee. Members vote on the books from this list, one-"weekers" voting for twice as many as do the two-"weekers." From the tally, the committee makes the final selection for purchase.

Each member receives a book on the starting Wednesday. One-week members keep their books for one week and pass them along on the

(Continued on Page 23)

\* The Faculty Book Club is composed of Eva Andrews and Hilda Lane, teachers; and Ethel Lane, librarian.

## Southern Section Fall Meeting

Southern Section librarians are remembering with satisfaction the very successful meeting at Scripps College on November 2nd. Millard Sheets, Director of Art and Aesthetics for Claremont Colleges, gave an inspiring lecture in the new art building. He spoke on the practical aspects of art as applied to city planning, architecture, etc., and what the librarians can do to encourage an art consciousness. The popularity of the speaker and his subject was evidenced by the large attendance of over 200 persons. Many art teachers, supervisors, and administrators, as well as librarians, were seen in the audience.

After the morning lecture there was ample time to explore the campus and see the unusually fine ex-

hibit of materials illustrating the history of printing on display in the art gallery and in the library. All were fascinated by the work on exhibit in the industrial art work-rooms, consisting of sculpture in various stages of progress, the weaving on hand looms, and other handicrafts.

Miss Dorothy Drake, the librarian, was a charming hostess. Thanks are due her for the careful planning which made possible such an enjoyable meeting for the group.

The luncheon and book review meeting was held in Claremont Inn and about 125 of the librarians and their friends stayed over for the friendly get-together and "book

fest."

## Christmas Party of Southern Section

By HELEN O'CONOR, *First Assistant, Branch Division*  
Los Angeles County Public Library

That authors definitely do know whereof they write was well proven Saturday evening, December 14th, when four writers spoke at the annual Christmas dinner of the California School Library Association, Southern Section. On hundred twenty-five librarians and their friends, among them Mildred Barrier, State President, who said she was both hostess and guest, gathered at the Chapman Park Hotel in Los Angeles where Elizabeth Williams, Southern President, presided.

Mr. Maher, Deputy Superintendent of the Los Angeles Board of Education, brought greetings to the group, many of whose members had come several hundred miles to attend. After introducing a number

of school superintendents, principals and librarians from public libraries, Miss Williams turned the meeting over to Marporie Schramling, Program Chairman. Mr. Adams and Mr. Lyman of the Music Department of the South Pasadena School played and sang several appropriate compositions after which Hildegard Hawthorne, in her lively entertaining way, proceeded to prove most satisfactorily that whether she wrote of long treks by horseback, shooting big game, or milking cows, she was describing actual conditions as she had known them at first hand.

In interesting contrast, Jeanette Eaton revealed details of her studious research into the background



of her historical novels, her trips to Siena, Paris, Virginia and the great libraries of the world, including those at the Vatican and Paris, where bewildering library methods nearly defeated her.

Judge Carey, who is an uncle of Marion Horton of the Los Angeles City Schools Library, and author of an authoritative history of Oregon, spoke of his pleasure in seeing so many old library friends. The

last author on the program, Mrs. Charles J. Still, brought a philosophical and poetical note to the meeting that was the more impressive for being the outgrowth of a lifetime spent in understanding contact with the Tibetan peoples. Chatter from Shangri-la lent a charming atmosphere to the meeting and the group adjourned with many pleased comments on the part of the guests.

## Northern Book Brunch

The first Northern Section Book Brunch of the year, held at the usual place, the Women's City Club, San Francisco, on December 1, was devoted to the discussion of books and bibliographies on the Americas.

After a sociable breakfast the fifty or more in attendance gathered together around tables containing fine displays of books arranged by the Sather Gate Book Shop according to the four group levels, elementary, junior high school, senior high school and college.

Miss Landfear, chairman of the

Book Brunch Committee, had arranged for a chairman for each group who led the discussion. Many interesting bibliographies were presented by various members of the different groups. These will be found listed in this issue of the Bulletin.

The exchange of opinions on books and their particular usefulness or harm was very valuable.

Do not forget the date of the next Book Brunch, March 30, the same time and place. Miss Landfear promises another very interesting discussion.

## Brand Book

"The California Brand Book of 1940" has just been issued by the California Bureau of Livestock Identification, Department of Agriculture. It contains 347 pages and lists about 16,000 legal, registered brands for cattle. This volume will be of interest in high schools located in cattle raising sections of the state. It shows drawings of all registered brands, the position on the animal where the brand is applied, the brand registry number

with names and addresses of persons or firms recording brands. When ear marks are recorded with brands they are also shown in the drawings. The information provided is current to July 22, 1940.

Delivery of the volume will be made on receipt of \$2.06 postpaid. Address Supervisor of Documents, 214 State Capitol, Sacramento, or 118 State Building, Civic Center, San Francisco.



## The Ella K. McClatchy\* Library for Young People

By ALBERTA E. CRONK, *Librarian*  
In Charge of Work with 'Teen Age Group

The green light will no doubt flash when most librarians pull up at the pearly gates. Beyond those portals their arduous efforts on earth will be rewarded by a blissful eternity in noble mansions circulating golden books to angelic readers. Some few of us here in Sacramento feel as if we are having a preview of our "skyey" hopes—a rare state in these perilous days. We have a beautiful mansion in which to work; we have shiny new books to circulate; we are preserved from infinite boredom, however, by the fact that our readers are far from angelic. Here is the story of how all this came to be:

Miss Eleanor McClatchy and her sister, Mrs. Charlotte Maloney, conceived the splendid idea of giving their family home to the city to be used as a Branch Library. They wished to make the presentation as a memorial to their mother, Mrs. Ella K. McClatchy.

The magnificent, fifteen room house, though twenty years old, was in excellent condition. Its location in a pleasant residential district near several schools was most strategic for service to young people and children; and, as Mrs. McClatchy had always been keenly interested in the youth of Sacramento, it seemed especially suited for a Young People's Library. Estimates and plans of all sorts were drawn up and presented to the city officials by Miss Grace Taylor, City Librarian, to convince them that the gift was a wise and profitable one to accept. In July, 1940, the official acceptance was announced

and by August funds were available to proceed with the plans.

Miss Taylor went over every inch of space contriving ways and means of utilizing it to the best advantage for a library without sacrificing the homelike appearance and atmosphere. The spacious rooms with their inlaid hardwood floors, imported papers on the ceilings, Belgian glass chandeliers, plus the lovely furniture and oriental rugs left by the donors, set the standards of grace and beauty very high. A charging desk for the pillared hall was especially designed to look as little as possible like that forbidding barrier behind which librarians are customarily entrenched. The rest of the furnishings were selected with the same idea in mind.

Reconstruction was necessary only on the second floor where several small rooms were combined to make the airy, sunny Children's Room. It is the cheeriest, happiest spot in the whole gay and unconventional library. The shelves are white with Dutch Blue linings. The tables, chairs, book truck, catalog and picture-book stand are all of bleached maple—an unusual departure in library furniture. The chairs are upholstered in blue leather and the window seats have cushions of the same color. Here one finds the largest collection of children's books in the city with the head of Children's Work, Miss Alice Stokes, in charge. Through the satiny leaves of a Ginkgo tree which grows outside the west windows, one looks down on a delightful garden bright with pansies,

where the big frogs crouched on the fountain's edge spout water into the air.

While we are on the second floor there are other rooms to be explored. At the head of the stairs is the Story Hour Room with its sturdy little chairs clustered about the fireplace. Against the wall are pastel benches that match the blue and rose wall paper. The master bedroom is now a comfortable club room where young people's organizations may meet.

The whole of the first floor belongs to the "Teen age group. At the right of the entrance hall is the Reference Room in what was formerly the library of the home. The glass doors have been removed from the book cases. Mahogany furniture matches the woodwork and fireplace. There is a convenient study room adjoining with walnut tables and Windsor chairs.

Stepping left from the entrance hall one's feet sink into the soft nap of a gorgeous rug that covers the floor of the huge living room. Those who visualize libraries as austere and barren should see this room. There's a chesterfield, overstuffed chairs, lamps, pictures, and a big fireplace. Current magazines are scattered handily about.

The sun room just beyond with its red tile floor and Monterey furniture is just the place for informal reading and chatter. A sun porch which opens off this room is equipped with built-in study tables and florescent lamps for ambitious students who wish peace and quiet. French doors into the garden will be flung wide next summer when tables and colorful umbrellas are set up on the lawn.

By the simple device of raising

the chandelier, the dining room has become the stack room. Some old stacks, discarded by the Main Library were treated to a coat of white paint outside and lined with a walnut stain. These tall Cinderellas look surprisingly well in the white and gold room. The catalog is in one corner accessible from the sun room or the entrance hall.

Invitations were sent to city and school officials and the heads of various children's agencies for the preview opening on the evening of November 8. The following Sunday afternoon the building was open for public inspection. On November 12 the library opened for regular service. The young people and children of Sacramento are proud of their library. Many doubtful fathers and mothers dragged in by enthusiastic youngsters have one and all capitulated to the charm of the place. A small collection of new and popular titles is kept on a shelf by the stairway for the convenience of adults living in the immediate neighborhood, but use of the rooms by older people for reading and study is discouraged. The library holds the building in trust for the young people of the city and we want to have them feel it is truly theirs.

The schools have cooperated whole heartedly in helping us form student councils. Two representatives from each school and one from each junior high and parochial school make up the memberships. They introduce speakers, suggest books and material needed, advertise the library in the school papers, act on applications for the use of the club room, and in general keep the library and the schools in close contact.

# Course for Special Libraries

University of Southern California

At the request of the In-Service Training Committee of the Southern California Chapter of the Special Libraries Association, the Graduate School of Library Science is offering a course in practical cataloging during the winter quarter (January 6 to March 21, 1941). The official title of the course is Cataloging and Classification for Special Libraries (Library Science 100). It aims to be a practical study of the principles of cataloging and classification as applied to the problems of special libraries. Emphasis will be given to the handling of ephemeral material.

The class will meet on Tuesdays from 7:00 to 9:20 p. m. in the Library School, Doheny Memorial

303, and will carry three quarter units of undergraduate credit. The tuition will be \$12.00, plus \$3.00 registration fee. Miss Hazel Dean, Assistant Professor of Cataloging and Classification in the Graduate School of Library Science, will conduct the course. Before her appointment to the University of Southern California, staff in 1939, Miss Dean was head of the Catalog Department of the Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration. For this reason she is particularly well qualified to present the special librarian's viewpoint and approach to the whole problem of cataloging and classification.

## Future Events

**January 8** — C. L. A. Section for Library Work with Boys and Girls; dinner; "Roundabout book reviews." World Book Shop, Oakland.

**January 9** — (and second Thursday of every month)—Assn. of Children's Librarians, Northern Section; 1:30 p. m. Assembly Room, San Francisco Public Library.

**January 11** — California Elementary School Principals' Assn.; regional meeting. Kings City.

**January 11** — C. T. A., Southern Section Council; regular meeting and annual business meeting. Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles.

**January 18** — California School Supervisors Assn., Bay section. Oakland.

**January 25** (tentative date) — C. L. A., Southern District meeting, probably in Los Angeles.

**February 1** — California Assn. for Childhood Education, Southern Section; luncheon. El Cortez Hotel, San Diego.

**February 5** — C. L. A. Section for Library Work with Boys and Girls; dinner; "Roundabout book reviews." World Book Shop, Oakland.

**February 6** — California State Assn. of English Teachers; board of directors; 6:00 p. m. Western Women's Club, San Francisco.

**February 8** — California Elementary School Principals Assn., Bay Section. Oakland.

**February 8-9** — C. L. A., Portola District meeting, Sat. noon through Sun. morning; theme: "Library in America's defense program." Hotel Petaluma, Petaluma.

**February 15** — California State Assn. of English Teachers; general meeting, 12:00 noon. Claremont Hotel Berkeley.

**February 19-22** — Progressive Education Assn.; national convention. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

**February 22** — California School Supervisors' Assn.; Bay Section. Oakland.

**February 22-27** — American Assn. of School Administrators; annual meeting. Atlantic City, New Jersey.

**March 1** — California Assn. for Childhood Education, Southern Section; luncheon. Del Mar Beach Club, Santa Monica.

**March 1** — School Library Assn. of California, Northern Section; open council meeting. Palo Alto.

**March 5** — C. L. A. Section for Library Work with Boys and Girls; dinner; "Roundabout book reviews." World Book Shop, Oakland.

**March 15** — California Elementary School Principals' Assn., regional meeting. Long Beach.

**March 30** — School Library Assn. of California, Northern Section; book brunch and council meeting; 11:00 a. m. Women's City Club, San Francisco.

**April 6-9** — California Elementary School Principals' Assn.; annual meeting. San Francisco.

**April 6-9** — California Western Music Educators' conference. San Jose.

**April 7-9** — Assn. of California Secondary School Principals; annual meeting. Oakland.

**April 7-9** — California Junior College Federation; annual meeting. Oakland.

**April 11-12** — C. T. A., State Council of Education; State Committees and Board of Directors; annual meeting. San Francisco.

**April 17** — California State Assn. of English Teachers; board of directors; 6:00 p. m. Western Women's Club, San Francisco.

**April 26** — California State Assn. of English Teachers; luncheon with authors as guest speakers, 12:00 noon; Margaret Girdner, Chairman. Western Women's Club, San Francisco.

**May 3** — School Library Assn. of California, Northern Section; annual spring meeting, 10:00 a. m. Marin Junior College, Kentfield.

**May 3** — California Assn. for Childhood Education; luncheon. Hotel Miramar, Santa Barbara.

**May 4-8** — California Conference of Social Work; 33rd annual meeting. Long Beach.

**May 6-8** — California Congress of Parents and Teachers; annual convention. Oakland.

**May 10** — California School Supervisors, Bay Section. Oakland.

**May 18** — California State Assn. of English Teachers; board of directors; luncheon; 12:00 noon. Mountain Play, Tamalpais.

**June 19-25** — American Library Assn.; annual conference. Boston, Massachusetts.

**June 29-July 3** — National Education Assn.; summer meeting. Boston, Massachusetts.

**July 8-12** — Assn. for Childhood Education; annual national convention. Suggested theme: "Implications of today's crucial problems for teachers of children." Oakland, California.

**October 16-18** — C. L. A. annual meeting; an institute, probably on Book Selection in the field of social sciences. Del Monte.

## LATIN AMERICA

These bibliographies were recommended by the group attending the Book Brunch of the Northern Section, December 1.

An annotated bibliography of books on Spanish South America and the West Indies. (In *Hispania*; a journal devoted to the interests of teachers of Spanish, and published by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish. Vol. 20, December, 1937. pp. 313-326.)

Latin America; books for North American readers. American Library Association. Booklist, vol. 37, no. 2, part 2.

Latin American backgrounds; a bibliography of 497 references. National Education Association. Research Division. October, 1940.

Latin American countries in children's literature, by Marita Hogan and Margaret Yeschko. (In *The Elementary Review*. Vol. 18, October, November, 1940. pp. 230-234; 276-284.)

A suggested list of basic books for the study of Latin American civilization. Compiled under the direction of Edith Pence, Director of Curriculum, San Francisco Public Schools, as the result of experimental classes conducted in Polytechnic and Mission High Schools, San Francisco.

# Book Breakfast Evaluations

## *Southern Section*

### Recommended Books of Fall, 1940

**ARLISS, GEORGE.** *My ten years in the studios.* Little, 1940. \$3.50.

A good sequel to "Up the years from Bloomsbury." Kindly and tolerant account of his years in the movies, chiefly in the studio of Warner Brothers in Hollywood. Many stills of his pictures are included. The last chapter is a summary of the development on the part of the public of what the more sincere producers are striving to accomplish.

Schramling. Sr. H. S., J. C.

**BENCHLEY, B. J.** *My life in a man-made jungle.* Little, 1940. \$3.00.

Anecdotes about animals interspersed with information about diets, feeding, shelter and acquisition of the animals in the San Diego Zoo. The style is informal and humorous and the subject is of interest to everyone. A book for the whole family.

Melleth. J. H. S., Sr. H. S., J. C., Fac.

**BROOKS, VAN WYCK.** *New England: Indian Summer 1865-1915.* Dutton, 1940. \$3.85.

An excellent study of the intellectual decline of the group who set the standards in art and culture in America for so long. The word portraits of early American leaders are vivid and illuminating. A continuation of the "Flowering of New England."

Munson. J. C.

**FORESTER, C. S.** *To the Indies.* Little, 1940. \$2.50.

An account of Columbus's third voyage told by a Spanish lawyer who had been sent by the king to report upon the captain's actions. Well written but somewhat uneven in narration. Contains both thrilling adventure and philosophic questioning of 15th century scientific and religious beliefs. Columbus remains rather vague throughout. It upholds — by implication — good ideals.

Lake. Sr. H. S., J. C.

**GAG, WANDA.** *Growing pains.* Coward, 1940. \$3.50.

With but little editing this book

gives a delightful picture of the young author's girlhood (1908-1917). It is a charming story of a sensitive determined girl with unusual ability and would be helpful to parents and teachers as well as girls in understanding the teen-age girl.

Fricke. Sr. H. S., J. C., Fac.

**HALL, J. N.** *Doctor Dogbody's leg.* Little, 1940. \$2.50.

An old navy surgeon meets his cronies in a tavern and, on ten different evenings, tells them ten different tales of how he lost his star-board leg. An interesting collection of sea yarns and tall tales of adventure which probably only sophisticated readers will appreciate.

**HARTMAN, GERTRUDE.** *Making of a democracy.* John Day, 1940. \$1.96.

Concrete and tangible treatment of the development and meaning of our democratic ideals and principles. Pt. I surveys the struggle of the English for freedom and justice from feudal times to the 17th century. Pt. II carries the struggle to America and describes the writing of the constitution and the formation of the nation. The last chapter analyzes two systems of government and compares the principles of democracy and dictatorship.

L. A. Lib. & Textbook. Elem., Jr. H. S.

**HOLBERG, R. L.** *Bells of Amsterdam.* Crowell, 1940. \$2.00.

Seventeenth century Amsterdam and the days of Rembrandt come to life in this well written and profusely illustrated book. Karl Ludwig, a young orphan, is chosen to ring the bells of Cude Kirk. In the course of his work, he meets Rembrandt's son and the two pose for the artist many times. The making of bells is of added interest.

Roewekamp. Elem.

**JEWETT, SOPHIE.** *God's troubadour: the story of St. Francis of Assisi.* Crowell, 1940. \$2.00.

Beautifully illustrated reprint of an

old favorite in a new format. Ellnore Blaisdell is the illustrator. Roewekamp. Elem.

**KELIHER, A. V.** Radio workers. Harper, 1940. \$1.00.

Another of the vocational series of picture fact books. It contains good charts and photographs. Useful to counselors as well as to students.

Herron. J. H. S.

**LANDSING, ELIZABETH.** Cecily Drake, movie editor. Crowell, 1940. \$2.00.

Cecily's three-year rise to an enviable career as secretary to a producer reads like a modern Algers story. Her failures merely point up her successes which are somewhat improbable for a girl who leaves college in her junior year. She becomes a reader in a N. Y. movie editor's office and is called to Hollywood because of one successful idea. There a romance ends happily for her.

Roewekamp. Jr. H. S., Sr. H. S.

**LEYSON, B. W.** Photographic occupations. Dutton, 1940. \$2.00.

A survey of the outstanding fields in photography for those interested in considering it as a vocation. Particularly interesting to boys.

Jr. H. S., Sr. H. S.

**MCDONALD, L. S.** Jewels and gems. Crowell, 1940. \$2.00.

A collection of legends, superstitions and stories about gems; also an account of when and where they were first found and the present source. Famous examples of extant stones are included. Highly readable, popular and recreational.

Roewekamp. Jr. H. S., Sr. H. S.

**MERSEREAU, ANN.** Why is America? A primer of democracy. Ginn, 1939. \$0.32.

A pamphlet explaining our system of government in simple form. It is an excellent short explanation of our type of government in contrast to a dictator type. Heavy paper, good print and clear illustrations.

Herron. Jr. H. S., Sr. H. S. (Slow readers).

**MILLIS, WALTER.** Why Europe fights. Morrow, 1940. \$2.50.

Bird's eye view of European history

of the last twenty years. Brief, clear, well-written and as impartial as is possible with so highly inflammable a subject. A "must" book for both reference and general reading.

Lake. Sr. H. S., J. C.

**Phaidon press.** Rodin. Oxford, 1939. \$3.00.

An all round view of Rodin's life and work with interpretations to aid in understanding and appreciation. Large photographs show many works as a whole and others in detail. Maintains the standard of this series.

Fricke. Sr. H. S., J. C.

**Phaidon press.** Sculpture of Michelangelo. Oxford, 1939. \$3.00.

Another fine art book of the same series. Contains a complete catalogue of the artist's works and photographs of those extant. Excellent for use, under direction, with mature students.

Fricke. Sr. H. S., J. C.

**PRYOR, W. C.** Let's look at advertising. Harcourt, 1940. \$2.00.

Good simple account of advertising. Covers not only advertising, but also consumer education. Answers the problem of finding factual material in simple language for slow readers.

Taylor. Jr. H. S.

**RAWLINGS, MARJORIE K.** When the whipporwill—(short stories) Scribner, 1940. \$2.50.

Eleven short stories and novelettes form the first collection of Mrs. Rawlings's shorter works. Adults of backwoods Florida are the characters of these well-written tales filled with humour, wisdom and tenderness.

Fricke. Sr. H. S., J. C., Fac.

**SAPIEHA, V. R.** Polish prefile. Carrick, 1940. \$2.50.

Enlightening picture of Poland seen thru the eyes of an American woman who married a Polish prince. She gives an objective and impartial insight into the feudal society of modern Poland. The book covers the period from Hitler's rise to power to the first days of the war in September, 1939.

Andrews. J. C., Fac.

**STILES, H. C.** Pottery of the Europeans. Dutton, 1940. \$2.50.

Another in Miss Stile's popular series on pottery. Readable and inter-



esting to both junior and senior high school students. The illustrations are good; and although they do not always represent good taste, they are good historical examples.

Roewekamp. Jr. H. S., Sr. H. S.

**THARP, L. H.** *Tory hole.* Crowell, 1940. \$2.00.

The period of the American revolution is covered in this excellent story of Steven, a fifteen-year-old boy, and his younger sister and brother, Hannah and Jonathan. A British raid, the capture of a spy, and other stirring incidents make this a vivid story of colonial times.

Roewekamp. Elem., Jr. H. S.

**TUNIS, J. R.** *Champion's choice.* Harcourt, 1940. \$2.00.

A good story of the making and maintaining of a girl tennis champion. A slighter book than the "Iron Duke" but decidedly superior to most sport stories.

Kemp. Jr. H. S., Sr. H. S.

**WILSON, W. E.** *Big Knife, the story of George Rogers Clark.* Farrar, 1940. \$2.00.

A stirring yet simply written biography of the conqueror of the old Northwest. The author skillfully covers the highlights of his adventurous life from boyhood days in Virginia to the capture of Vincennes. Jefferson, Patrick Henry, Daniel Boone, Spanish nobility, Indian trappers, and soldiers all march across the pages in brilliant succession.

Kemp. Jr. H. S., Sr. H. S.

**YOUNG, STANLEY.** *Young Hickory.* Farrar, 1940. \$2.00.

The spirit and color of the times are well portrayed in this story of the youth and young manhood of Andrew Jackson. His participation in the Indian wars, his schooling, his experiences as a legal circuit rider, and his meeting with Rebecca are recounted in an interesting manner.

Kemp. Jr. H. S., Sr. H. S.

## In Memoriam

Word of the sudden death of Madeleine L. Glavin, librarian of the Teachers' Professional Library of San Francisco, came as a great shock to the teachers and librarians of the Bay region. She was on sabbatical leave studying at the University of California when she was stricken with an attack of appendicitis which proved fatal.

Miss Glavin was a member of the staff of the Richmond Public Library before she came to San Francisco in 1927 to become the first librarian of the Teachers' Library, which prior to that time had been an unorganized collection of books. During her thirteen years of service she built up the present collection of reference materials which so effectually meets the needs of teachers both in the elementary and

secondary fields. One of her greatest contributions was the organization of the picture collection which received such an enthusiastic response that it has served as the inspiration and model for picture files in many of the schools.

Those who were in the habit of visiting her library will remember how her artistic ability showed itself in pleasing flower arrangements and attractive bulletin boards. Special exhibits of dolls and other articles which she had collected on her many travels gave a distinctive touch to her library. Her friendly, cheery personality will be missed by her wide circle of friends and users of the library as well as by those who were privileged to be directly associated with her.



Friends of Catherine Kuchman, librarian at the Sutter Junior High School in Sacramento, were shocked to learn of her tragic death on September 25. She died as a result of severe burns received at her home when gasoline used for cleansing purposes ignited.

She had attended public schools in Sacramento, and also the University of California at Berkeley. Later she entered the School of Library Service at the Columbia University, from where she was graduated in 1934.

Miss Kuchman spent several of

her summer vacations traveling. She had been to Europe twice, to Australia, and this last summer visited the Hawaiian Islands for the second time. She had had some happy weeks there, having spent much of her time in surf-board riding, swimming, and learning Hawaiian dances.

Students and faculty of the Sutter Junior High School will remember Miss Kuchman for her enthusiasm in her work with the school, her willingness to help the boys and girls with their problems, and for her very pleasing personality.

## Can Schools Make Readers? \*

FREDERIC G. MELCHER, *Editor*  
The Publishers' Weekly

In the past three decades the number of boys and girls who have been given a high school education has increased by leaps and bounds. Now the need of fundamental changes in the content of these secondary courses is being widely recognized and, for that reason, a report just issued from the American Council of Education becomes of first-rate importance. This report is called "What the High Schools Ought to Teach." It was prepared at the request of the American Youth Commission of which Owen D. Young is chairman, and ten of the leading educators of the country are responsible for the findings.

While every aspect of secondary curricula has been reweighed and reevaluated and many fundamental changes of emphasis suggested, of

especial interest to readers of the *Publishers' Weekly* is the importance ascribed to reading and good school libraries. It is the first subject stressed in the report. Even the facility to read is urged as deserving a part in high school courses. "The fact is that reading is not a simple skill; it is a complex of many skills. Pupils get a start in reading in the elementary schools but they need years of practice in the higher forms of reading and interpretation in order to cultivate methods that will make them fluent, independent readers. . . . Some energetic minds acquire skills in reading through their own endeavors. Many pupils need stimulation, encouragement and instruction by an experienced teacher."

Too much of the teaching effort is wasted "in policing learners," it is pointed out, while if pupils once gained the idea that they

\* Reprinted from the October 12, 1940 issue of *The Publishers' Weekly*, 62 West 45th Street, New York, with the permission of Mr. Frederic G. Melcher, Editor.

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## News Notes

Jasmine Britton, Director of Los Angeles City School Libraries, flew to Albuquerque, New Mexico, in October to attend the Tenth Biennial Conference of the Southwestern Library Association, and to speak on the "Place of the Library in the School."

Louise Roewekamp of the Manual Arts High School, Los Angeles, has been selected chairman for the Professional Committee of the Southern Section. Theresa Fulford, who was previously named, resigned this fall because of additional school responsibilities and extra home duties.

Birdella Hill of Santa Barbara, who is librarian at the Mountain

View High School, was married on October 12 to Horace R. Loughlin of San Jose.

Maurine Sims Hardin of University High in Oakland sponsors a sailing club. After studying the problem at school, the group began to practice at the Berkeley Yacht Harbor. They now sail there regularly.

Another librarian branching out into a new field is Frances Bandy of the Riverside Polytechnic High School. She sponsors the school riding club. The group was so large it has been divided into two sections, each one meeting twice a month.

### School Library Services of the United States Office of Education

(Continued from Page 3)

tering coordination of public and school library service; coordinating library service on the national level with other forms of adult education; developing library participation in federal projects; fostering nation-wide coordination of research materials among the more scholarly libraries, interstate library cooperation, and the development of public, school and other library service throughout the country."\*

This new unit is now the division of the Office wherein are centered the activities relating to school library service, which in accordance with the aforementioned statement of the Congress are fact-finding and promotional in character. Its activ-

ities are thus in harmony with the basic law creating the Office. At this point a word of caution is necessary regarding possible confusion between the functions of the Library and the Library Service Division. The former is the Office's educational library consisting of approximately 250,000 volumes which are used by members of the staff, students of education in Washington and also throughout the country by a system of inter-library loans; the Library also prepares bibliographies and answers many reference questions. The latter is primarily a research division comparable to other divisions whose duties are concerned largely with the preparation of research studies and investigations.

In the establishment of this new Division, a specialist in school libraries, Nora E. Beust, was appointed

\* 74th Congress, 2nd Session, 1935-1936. 49 Stat. L. Part I, p. 1797.

and the writer was transferred to the Division. The specific ways by which the specialists in school libraries are contributing to the fields of their assignments are in general the same as those for specialists in other divisions. Briefly they are: (a) collection of facts; (b) preparation of research studies for publication by the Office (sometimes in cooperation with specialists in other divisions); (c) preparation of bibliographies; (d) representation of the Office at national and state educational and library meetings and conferences; (e) service on national and regional committees and boards and participation in educational surveys when invited; and (f) advisory service through correspondence, personal interviews and a limited amount of field work.

An importance conference called by the Office since the establishment of the Library Service Division was that of the State School Library Supervisors held in the spring of 1939. Details of this conference were published in the following June issue of *School Life*, reprints of which may be secured upon request.

#### PUBLICATIONS

Because of the growing importance of library service for schools, there was published in 1938 *Statistics of Public-School Libraries, 1934-35*, which gave data for both elementary and secondary schools, this being the first time such facts have been made available for schools of elementary grade level. The present plan is to publish periodically similar compilations, thus making possible comparative data. Some library statistics will be included in the Office's periodic study of private schools. Formerly, sta-

tistical data for school libraries, which have been published at intervals since 1870, are found mostly in annual reports of commissioners of education and in statistical reports of libraries. Biennial surveys of public high schools since 1917-18 contain some statistics relating to libraries.

There is now in press a bulletin on *Laws Affecting School Libraries*. Heretofore such information has been included for the most part in reports of commissioners of education, in biennial surveys, and in studies of educational legislation.

Subjects of other investigations in the field of school library service are book selection, guidance, library service for rural and secondary schools and school administration. Titles of two of the most recent are *500 Books for Children* and *Know Your School Library* (one of the Office's "Know Your School" series). The *Secondary School Library*, published in 1933, is one of the titles of the 28 monographs of the *National Survey of Secondary Schools*, which was made by the Office. There is in progress an investigation of *Unit Costs in a Selected Group of School Libraries*, which is being made under the supervision of the Library Service Division by Mary Evalyn Crookston, who holds an A. L. A. fellowship for 1940-41. A *Study of State Agencies for Library Service*, which is one of a series of studies on state departments of education, will contain a section on laws and functions pertaining to schools.

For years the Office has published bibliographies, most of which have been prepared in the Library. At present these are of two types: (a) Good References (bibliography

series) and (b) Bibliography of Research Studies, which is published annually; both contain some references relating to school library service. In addition, specialists in the various Divisions frequently prepare bibliographies in their particular fields. Three such have been published by the Library Service Division, and others are contemplated. A list of the publications of the Office relating to school libraries may be secured upon request.

#### DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

The Office of Education is taking an active part in the national defense program. It is administering emergency funds for courses in vocational and engineering training for defense. These courses have many implications for school and college libraries, and the Library Service Division has been cooperating in these activities. In addition, the Division is participating in such other general educational projects as have significance for libraries of all types in the preparedness program. The place of the library in the defense activities has been expressed by the U. S. Commissioner of Education, John W. Studebaker, in a recent press release as follows:

"Libraries are playing a major role in our national defense program. They supplement and contribute to defense training in schools, colleges, and industry by making available to students and workers needed technical information. Demands upon libraries may be expected to increase as the national defense program continues and expands. Location of new defense industries, extension of defense training for young people and adults, selective service, new problems in

American education — all are reflected in requests for library service. We must do everything possible to continue this service at its highest efficiency. There must be no 'bottlenecks' in this field of education during the emergency period."

#### Idea Exchange at Visalia

(Continued from Page 5)

Manuals explaining the use of the library were supplied by Louise Roewekamp of Manual Arts High School in Los Angeles. A brief and comprehensive sheet called Library Information came from Marian Gwinn of the John S. Fremont High School in Los Angeles. Gladys Green of Los Angeles City College furnished Smooth Sailing, "charting a course for a successful cruise through the library." Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri, sent its Knowledge Locator. A staff manual with clever drawings and attractive binding came from the Lincolnton High School in North Carolina.

Marjorie Van Deusen of Belmont High School in Los Angeles provided tests she finds useful for her classes in the use of the library. Jeanette Vander Ploeg of San Jose State College had many requests for her tests developed by her testing committee of the association. The University of Minnesota and the University of Louisiana syllabi showed two different approaches to the junior college course in the use of the library.

Attractive book marks for elementary school students from Mrs. Nahmens at the Burbank School in Long Beach and the ones supplied by the University of Southern California for their Film-Book

Club of the Air vanished as quickly as the book lists.

A spot of color drew many people to the Christmas greetings—gum drops with tiny candles and Life Saver handles on red and white bases from Elizabeth Neal of Compton, greeting book marks from Margaret F. Glassey at Emerson Junior High School in Los Angeles. May baskets from Compton and attractive menus for a book luncheon from Milwaukee were exhibited also.

Annual reports interested delegates; Fay Tunison of Long Beach Junior College, Helen Pierce of Modesto Junior College, and Marjorie T. Fullwood of Franklin Junior High School in Long Beach supplied these. College catalogs from seventeen of the accredited library schools filled another table. Mrs. Florence Carter also bought the exhibit materials she uses at the University of Southern California for the Film-Book Club of the Air.

Jessie Boyd's great scrap book of photographs and printed forms demonstrated the routines, methods, and processes of the University Training School Libraries of Oakland.

The generosity of these and other school librarians in supplying their materials made it possible for many to leave the convention with ideas that they can adapt to their own particular needs. Such cooperation certainly unites members of the profession and advances the program of the library for all.

### Faculty Book Clubs

(Continued from Page 9)

following Wednesday to the next person on the list. Likewise two-week members keep their books two weeks and pass them along two weeks from the date received. Inside the cover of each book is a list of the members of the club to which the book belongs and the dates on which each is supposed to receive said book.

Not the least interesting part of this arrangement is that members pay only \$1.50 for the year while the books average over \$2.25 apiece. This is possible because of the auction held each Fall in which last year's books are sold to members of the faculty. No books are held over from one year to another. An additional small source of income is the summer rental on the books. The faculty is able to have these books for the summer by paying \$.15 apiece of the bargain rate of two for \$.25. First chance goes to the faculty book club members and then what is left is rented to other faculty members.

The machinery thus set-up works excellently and falls down only when a member has a lapse of memory or becomes ill. It then becomes the duty of the committee to jog the memory of the absent-minded one, or to retrieve the book from the incapacitated one.

Our teachers seem happy with the present arrangement, perhaps because we have tried others and this seems to be the most satisfactory. We gladly pass our set-up and our experience along for what help it may bring other faculties.

## Can Schools Make Readers?

(Continued from Page 19)

themselves were responsible for their own intellectual progress through the proper use of recorded experience a great burden would be lifted off the schools.

If this change of attitude could make teaching more effective it would also make bookselling and library service more profitable and fruitful. Booksellers and librarians are disheartened by the few real readers that are produced by the dozen years of public or private school education. That sense of a "personal responsibility for their own intellectual progress" has been developed in but a few boys and girls. Public libraries find that only one-third of the adult population uses the library, and bookstores find regular book buyers among an even smaller percent of the population.

Why should schools leave in so many of their graduates such a deadened interest in books and reading? Not because books have been replaced as a means of communication, says the report. Those who criticize books are "among the loudest in their demands that illiteracy shall not be tolerated in the land." "Many of the courses in literature as now administered should be transformed. These courses do not determine the reading interest of young people." "Good literature fails to be appreciated and enjoyed because of the analytical treatment that the best books receive in secondary classrooms....Pupils should be introduced to interesting materials that appeal to their individual tastes and curiosities and given the training which will make them independent readers."

If such a new attitude toward reading does begin to have an effect in the next decade, publishers not only of textbooks but particularly publishers of general literature will find a stimulating audience and booksellers and librarians may look forward to having as clients more "independent readers with individual taste and curiosity"—the kind of readers that they delight to serve.

### In Print

ROBERTS, HOLLAND D., and MARTIN, LAURA K.

Classroom libraries in the school library program; notes from visitation in the participating schools of the Stanford language arts investigation. (Education, vol. 61, pp. 42-46, September, 1940.)

MARTIN, LAURA K.

Periodicals for the school library. H. W. Wilson, 1940 (December). \$2.25.

(Miss Martin was formerly an instructor at the San Joes State College. She is now associate professor of library science in the University of Kentucky.)

Edith V. Titecomb, Chairman of the Professional Committee of the California School Library Association, urges school librarians either to renew or to start membership in the A. L. A.

"World tour," by Madeline Chargin, librarian of the Roosevelt Jr. High School in San Jose, appeared in the Wilson Library Bulletin of October, 1940. The article describes book week activities.









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